



MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN TASK FORCE

MEETING NOTES

JUNE 8, 2004

4:00 P.M.

ROOM 113

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| Task Force Members Present | Kit Boesch, Nye Bond, Susan Dunn, Duane Eitel, Margaret Hall, Rick Krueger, Marian Malone, Bill McCoy, Patte Newman, Terry Werner. (Elaine Hammer, Greg MacLean, Tad McDowell, Eric Miller, Oscar Pohirieth, Gordon Scholz absent) |
| Resource Panel Members Present | Mike Brienzo, Terry Genrich, Randy Hoskins, Ken Smith, Larry Worth, Jerry Wray |
| Others Present | Jim Burden, Shrena Joshi, Alvin Lugn, Brian Praeuner, Alan Wickman, Kent Morgan, David Cary, Michele Abendroth |

Agenda Topics

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and welcomed those present.

2. Public Comment Period (10 min. maximum)

Alan Wickman expressed his hope that there will be a strong chapter on trails. He likes the chapter on the multi-modal transportation coordinator, although he believes it could be a daunting task for one person. He believes this position is a very important part of the City's planning for the next several decades and an additional staff person should be hired to fill the position.

3. Review Draft: Praeuner Memo & Future StarTran Operational Approaches

Mr. Morgan began by reviewing the memo from Brian Praeuner. He noted that the StarTran Task Force made several recommendations in 2000. One of the recommendations was to delete the five express routes and implement an initial north-south route on 27th Street.

Mr. Morgan then reviewed the near-term approaches for StarTran. The first approach includes utilizing a modified grid system, increasing the current 48th Street shuttle route to the former level of service and implementing a third north-south grid route within the 66th/70th Street corridor. Mr. Worth added that this is included for implementation as part of the Comprehensive

Plan. A second approach is to implement free fares, increase Saturday services, and begin Sunday service and night service. The third approach is to reduce the service area, decrease the headways on most routes, and utilize taxi vouchers for those patrons outside the service area.

Long-term approaches would include an analysis of StarTran's operations. Possible considerations include a radial pulse system with downtown as the single hub, a radial pulse system with a non-downtown site as a single hub, a radial pulse system with multiple hubs, a grid system, a modified grid system, a multidestinal system, route deviation, and demand response

Ms. Boesch requested that a timeline for these approaches be drafted.

Mr. Bond commented that he believes an attempt to bring balance or coordination to this plan is missing. Mr. Morgan responded that he is confident this issue will be addressed as each chapter is presented to the Task Force.

Mr. Krueger suggested reducing the geographical area of the route system and serving those areas better. Ms. Dunn responded that if we move in that direction, she would like to have the coordination and collaborative effort work toward having a larger unit focused only on transportation. Ms. Malone stated that every part of town has a right to transportation. Ms. Dunn noted that she is not opposed to serving some populations with other alternatives.

Mr. Morgan stated that the biggest issue is how to serve those people outside the area. Mr. Worth stated that it has been suggested to contract with a taxi program, but it would be an additional cost.

Mr. Werner made a motion to reduce the current StarTran fixed route service area; utilize another system for the patrons outside the service area; use a modified grid system within the service area; provide service 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Sunday with headways of 15-20 minutes during the peak hours and 30-40 minutes during the non-peak hours; and provide free bus passes to those below the poverty level. Ms. Dunn seconded the motion. Mr. McCoy made an amendment to the motion to extend the hours of operation to 12:00 midnight so as to accommodate those individuals working the second shift. Motion carried 9-1. Boesch, Bond, Dunn, Eitel, Hall, Krueger, McCoy, Newman, and Werner voting 'yes'; Malone voting 'no'; Hammer, MacLean, McDowell, Miller, Pohirieth, and Scholz absent.

Mr. Krueger asked that staff research whether or not free fares are legal.

Ms. Boesch moved approval of the long-term approaches, seconded by Mr. Werner. Ms. Boesch then asked that the chapter be revised to state that the appropriate staff level needs to be available and that some time frames be added. Motion carried 10-0. Boesch, Bond, Dunn, Eitel, Hall, Krueger, Malone, McCoy, Newman, and Werner voting 'yes'; Hammer, MacLean, McDowell, Miller, Pohirieth, and Scholz absent.

4. Review Draft: Special Services

Mr. Cary stated that this chapter deals with the coordination of special transit services. The pilot program is funded for the first year, but there is not a defined funding source for years two and three. Two other major parts of this chapter include an operations review of the StarTran Handi-Van program and rural transit needs.

Ms. Boesch moved approval of this chapter, seconded by Mr. Werner. Motion carried 10-0. Boesch, Bond, Dunn, Eitel, Hall, Krueger, Malone, McCoy, Newman, and Werner voting 'yes'; Hammer, MacLean, McDowell, Miller, Pohirieth, and Scholz absent.

5. Review Draft: Subarea Plans

Mr. Morgan noted that this chapter states that over the next several years, they will work with neighborhood groups to reinforce the concept of multi-modalism. This tends to be oriented toward the older, established areas. Mr. Werner expressed that this should cover every area. Mr. Morgan responded that the other areas are covered in other ways. He added that we need to work on pedestrian standards. Mr. Krueger suggested designating College View as a model.

Ms. Newman moved approval of this chapter, seconded by Ms. Boesch. Ms. Boesch made an amendment to the motion to include a goal of completing a subarea plan in College View over the next 24 months; Ms. Dunn seconded. Motion carried 9-0. Boesch, Bond, Dunn, Eitel, Hall, Krueger, McCoy, Newman, and Werner voting 'yes'; Hammer, MacLean, Malone, McDowell, Miller, Pohirieth, and Scholz absent.

6. Review Draft: MMT Coordinator Position

Mr. Werner stated that he feels the Multi-Modal Coordinator position should not be housed in StarTran or Public Works because of the inherent narrow focus of each of these departments, and specifically, that neither encompass multi-modalism.

Ms. Boesch moved approval of this chapter, seconded by Ms. Dunn. Motion carried 9-0. Boesch, Bond, Dunn, Eitel, Hall, Krueger, McCoy, Newman, and Werner voting 'yes'; Hammer, MacLean, Malone, McDowell, Miller, Pohirieth, and Scholz absent.

Ms. Dunn made an amendment to the motion that the position start in the Planning Department, report to the Mayor in the near term, and as the position proves its worth, it would then become an independent position. Motion carried 9-0. Boesch, Bond, Dunn, Eitel, Hall, Krueger, McCoy, Newman, and Werner voting 'yes'; Hammer, MacLean, Malone, McDowell, Miller, Pohirieth, and Scholz absent.

7. Review Draft: StarTran Management and Funding

Mr. Morgan explained that this chapter states there will be an analysis of creating another operating structure for StarTran.

Mr. Eitel moved approval of this chapter, seconded by Mr. McCoy.

Mr. Krueger asked that this item be deferred until the next meeting.

Ms. Boesch moved to table this item until the next meeting. There was general agreement from the Task Force members present to do so.

8. Adjourn

Mr. Morgan adjourned the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

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